

Daily Astorian.

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The Boers are not to be congratulated upon the conduct of some of their sympathizers in this country in trying to identify their cause with free silver or any other issue in American politics. There may be some who think it would be smart practice to make the South African war a club with which to belabor their political opponents here. But we can imagine nothing more abhorrent to the sound sense of the American people in general than any such attempt. Only once in our history did foreign politics play a leading part in our domestic politics, and the outcome of that episode was not such as to invite a repetition of it.

The indications are that the rush to Cape Nome in the coming spring and summer will equal that to Klondike in 1898. Happily, these diggings are on United States territory, and the exactions which the Canadian authorities perpetrated on Americans will not be repeated in Cape Nome as regards miners from any part of the world. There are hopes that the new diggings will be richer than any found in Canada. If the expectations of the experts are borne out the United States in 1900 and 1901 will go to a high rank among the gold-producing countries. There is a belief, indeed, that the deposits in the Cape Nome region are more widely extended than are those even in South Africa, which are the richest thus far found anywhere in the world. The United States has probably, when all its gold and silver mines are taken into account, more of the precious metals than any other country.

An article from the Chicago Times-Herald, published elsewhere, shows to what extent the proposition for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people is taking hold of the country. It is understood that the coming Oregon state republican convention will probably adopt a resolution declaring in favor of that reform, and the national convention will certainly do so. One method adopted years ago by many Eastern and Middle Western states to avoid the unseemly legislative contests that have hindered public business and disgraced other sections has been to express a preference at the regular state convention between those who were avowed candidates for such honors. Of course

such a declaration is not binding on the legislature, but there is no exception to the rule that where it has been done the candidate so designated has been promptly elected at the meeting of the legislative body. The Astorian earnestly advocated the adoption of this plan in dealing with both the last two Oregon contests, and it believes the suggestion a timely one for consideration by the state meeting at this time coming on.

The hold which Bryan manages to retain on the rank and file of one element of his party, notwithstanding the fact that every sane person in that party sees overwhelming defeat for him at the polls this year, it is one of the marvels of politics. It is a sort of fatalism which is supposed to be foreign to the American character. Though his overthrow and that of his party are seen by the astute members of it to be as certain to come as is election day, yet there is no movement to defeat him in the convention. If the convention were to meet tomorrow he would probably get the entire vote of the delegates. There is no good reason to suppose that he will be any weaker two or three months hence when the convention meets. Men who are as sure that he will be crushingly defeated in November as they are that the sun will rise tomorrow will cast their votes for him in the convention. The entire democratic party seems to be hypnotized into a cowardice which prevents it from raising a hand to keep him from the nomination, though that will mean, as all sensible democrats are aware, a disastrous defeat for the party. The abject fear with which Bryan has inspired the democratic party workers and bosses is one of the strangest of the political phenomena of the time.

The difference between the policies of the republican and democratic parties is well illustrated by the division among the representatives of the former party and the solid opposition of the latter to the Puerto Rican tariff bill now under debate in congress. The question at issue does not, as many casual readers may imagine, relate directly or indirectly to the principle of protection as against free trade. It involves a grave question of constitutional interpretation or construction upon which there is the utmost room for difference of opinion between intelligent and independent statesmen of every political hue. It is for this reason that we find the committee from which the present bill originated, although composed in its majority of the party and doubtless personal associates of the president, recommending a measure directly opposed to the policy of his administration and in conflict with his own individual view and official advice. The bill proposed by the committee, if rejected, can be defeated only through republican votes. Yet we find the democrats in congress solidly, as the dispatches express it, arrayed in opposition to the bill. And so it has been with every great question that has confronted the nation in forty years. No matter what it was—whether it related to the issue of retirement of the greenbacks—whether it involved the adoption of important and absolutely essential amendments to the constitution—whether it involved the reconstruction and admission back to statehood of the sections of the country dismembered and torn by intestine conflict—whether it had to do with the resumption of specie payments—the reform of the civil service—the collection of public revenue—the payment of the public debt—the question of territorial and commercial expansion—the improvement of finances—or any other public question, it matters not what we have the same old obstruction and policy of negation from the democrats as a party to any bill, resolution, measure or suggestion, that issues from a republican source, however meritorious, non-partisan, patriotic or essential it may be to the welfare of the country and the people at large.

BOUNTY PLAN FOR AIDING AMERICAN SHIPPING.

The figures presented by the National Board of Trade in support of their resolutions favoring the enactment of the Payne subsidy bill tell the story of the rapid decline of our merchant marine in the foreign trade. As an argument to justify the adoption of measures for its restoration its figures are convincing and conclusive. But that a bounty or subsidy system is the legislative device best calculated to develop an American merchant marine in foreign shipping is a proposition upon which well-informed statesmen fail to agree.

It is a fact that United States vessels carried 92 per cent of the nation's imports and exports in 1896, and that

this percentage has gradually declined from year to year until in 1899 our vessels carried only 8 per cent of our trade with foreign countries. It is also true that the tonnage of vessels in our coastwise trade, from which foreign bottoms are excluded, increased from 722,330 tons in 1896 to 3,965,313 in 1899. It is also true that the United States is now paying to foreign shipowners nearly \$300,000,000 annually to do our ocean carrying trade.

It is argued by many that the bounty system proposed by the Payne bill would not only bankrupt the treasury but would precipitate retaliatory measures on the part of other nations. There can be no doubt, however, regarding the public demand for some form of legislation that will encourage the building up of our merchant marine, not for the benefit of our commerce but for the revival of our shipbuilding interests. Whether the subsidy plan is the wisest scheme that can be devised for the purpose and to what extent it should be applied are grave questions that invite serious consideration before congress passes upon the measures proposed.

FORCING THE ELECTION OF U. S. SENATORS BY THE PEOPLE.

Chicago Times-Herald.

An important and practical effort is now being made outside congress to bring about an amendment of the constitution which shall provide for the election of United States senators by the people. The prime mover in the matter is a joint committee of the Pennsylvania legislature, which was appointed for the purpose of forwarding the proposed change. After the Quaker contest of last year the defects and evils of the present system were felt in Pennsylvania as they never had been before. The attempt to defeat the will of the people was too flagrant to pass unnoticed, and public indignation against a set of political jobbers compelled legislative action.

By the terms of the constitution there are two methods of securing amendments. Congress itself may take the initiative, in which case it is necessary that the proposed measure should receive the vote of two-thirds of each house. After this it must be ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states before it becomes binding. This is the simpler method, but in the present case it is attended with great difficulties because the senators stand in the way. The composition of their own body is to be affected, and those among them who are skilful in manipulating do not care to take their chances with the people. Hence it is not probable that a majority of two-thirds of the senate can be secured for the bill now before congress.

The other method is the one which the Pennsylvania committee hopes to see adopted. Here the initiative rests with the state legislatures. If two-thirds of them make application congress must call a national convention to formulate an amendment. Once it is adopted by the convention it, too, must be ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states.

The committee has passed resolutions in favor of holding a convention and has sent them to the secretaries of state in those states where the legislatures are now in session, namely, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Maryland, Iowa, Kentucky and Mississippi. As the subject comes up anew in this form it may not be favorably received by legislatures already elected, since it strikes at a legislative prerogative, but if it is made a feature of all future elections it will then be easy enough to get the legislative assent. A campaign properly conducted will force congress to act either directly so as to avoid the threatening command or by the summoning of a convention under pressure.

The agitation was never so effective as it is now, and the Pennsylvanians are to be congratulated on their excellent work, which cannot be ignored. As we review the subject the admirable prudence and wisdom of the framers of the constitution becomes evident once more. It has never been necessary to try the alternative of the legislative initiative up to now, but here it is at hand to fit the emergency and to prevent congress from thwarting the popular will.

GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS WANTED.

Office of C. Q. M., Vancouver Barracks, Wash., February 12, 1900: Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received here until 11 o'clock, a. m., March 12, 1900, and then opened, for furnishing fuel at the several military posts in this department, for fiscal year commencing July 1st, 1900. Information furnished here or by quartermasters at posts. U. S. reserves right to reject or accept any or all proposals or any part thereof. Envelopes containing proposals should be marked: "Proposals for Fuel at—" and addressed to undersigned, J. W. JACOBS, C. Q. M.

My son has been troubled for years with chronic diarrhea. Sometime ago I persuaded him to take some of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. After using two bottles of the 25-cent size he was cured. I give this testimonial hoping some one similarly afflicted may read it and be benefited.—THOMAS C. BOWER, Gloucester, O. For sale by Charles Rogers.

The sure way to be cheated is to fancy ourselves more cunning than others.

Mr. J. Sheer, Sedalia, Mo., saved his child's life by One Minute Cough Cure. Doctors had given her up to die with croup. It's an infallible cure for coughs, colds, grippe, pneumonia, bronchitis and throat and lung troubles. Relieves at once. Chas Rogers.

We are angry with those who trick us, because they appear to have more wit than ourselves.

DeWitt's Little Early Riser purify the blood, cleanse the liver, invigorate the system. Famous little pills for constipation and liver troubles. Chas Rogers.

One man may be more cunning than another, but not more cunning than all the world.

Miss Annie E. Gunning, Tyre, Mich., says: "I suffered a long time from dyspepsia; lost flesh and became very weak. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure completely cured me." It digests what you eat and cures all forms of stomach trouble. It never fails to give immediate relief in the worst cases. Chas Rogers.

Those who are deceived by our cunning appear not near so ridiculous to us as we seem to ourselves when deceived by the cunning of others.

"One Minute Cough Cure is the best remedy I ever used for coughs and colds. It is unequalled for whooping cough. Children all like it," writes H. N. Williams, Gettysville, Ind. Never fails. It is the only harmless remedy that gives immediate results. Cures coughs, colds, hoarseness, croup, pneumonia, bronchitis and all throat and lung troubles. Its early use prevents consumption. Chas Rogers.

There are two kinds of curiosity. One arises from interest, which makes us desirous to learn what may be useful to us; the other from pride, which makes us desire to know what others are ignorant of.

"I was nearly dead with dyspepsia, tried doctors, visited mineral springs, and grew worse. I used Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. That cured me." It digests what you eat. Cures indigestion, sour stomach, heartburn and all forms of dyspepsia. Chas Rogers.

Karl's Clover Root Tea
Restores the complexion, purifies the blood, gives a fresh, clear skin. Cures Consumption, Indigestion, and all forms of the Skin. An agreeable Laxative. Nerve Tonic. Sold on absolute guarantee by all druggists at 25c, 50c, and \$1.00.
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Be deceived by our enemies and betrayed by our friends is not to be borne, yet are we often content to be served so by ourselves.

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OREGON WATER CURES GRAVEL, CONSTIPATION, INFLAMMATION OF THE BLADDER, AND ALL KIDNEY DISEASES.
Purifies the blood by eliminating all poisonous matter, stimulating the secretory, regulating the bowels and aiding nature in throwing off that which makes a yellow skin. The effect on the COMPLEXION is quite pronounced, as a few days' use will demonstrate.

Light-house proposals will be received at the office of the Light-House Inspector, Marquam Building, Portland, Oregon, until 12 o'clock, M., March 1, 1900, for furnishing provisions for vessels and stations in the 15th light-house district for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, in accordance with specifications, copies of which, with blank proposals and other information, may be had upon application to Commander B. D. Taunton, U. S. N.

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Twenty-five Years' Constant Use Without a Failure.

The first indication of croup is hoarseness, and in a child subject to that disease it may be taken as a sure sign of the approach of an attack. Following this hoarseness is a peculiar rough cough. If Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is given as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough appears, it will prevent the attack. It is used in many thousands of homes in this broad land and never disappoints the anxious mothers. We have yet to learn of a single instance in which it has not proved effectual. No other preparation can show such a record—twenty-five years' constant use without a failure. For sale by Charles Rogers.

It is much easier to suppress a first desire than to satisfy them that follow.

Mrs. R. Churchill, Berlin, Vt., says: "Our baby was covered with running sores. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cured her." A specific for piles and skin diseases. Beware of worthless counterfeits. Chas Rogers.

We were perfectly acquainted with the object, we should never passionately desire it.

As a cure for rheumatism Chamberlain's Pain Balm is gaining a wide reputation. D. B. Johnston of Richmond, Ind., has been troubled with that ailment since 1862. In speaking of it he says: "I never found anything that would relieve me until I used Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It acts like magic with me. My foot was swollen and aching very much but one good application of Pain Balm relieved me. For sale by Charles Rogers.

He who imagines he can do without the world deserves himself much; but who who fancies the world cannot do without him is still more mistaken.

We are so used to disguise ourselves to others that at last we become disguised even to ourselves.

It takes but a minute to overcome tickling in the throat and to stop a cough by the use of One Minute Cough Cure. This remedy quickly cures all forms of throat and lung troubles. Harmless and pleasant to take. It prevents consumption. A famous specific for grippe and its after effects. Chas Rogers.

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6:50 12:10 Lv. Warrenton Ar. 6:55 3:10
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